

PROGRESS OF THE EASTERN FRONT

The great battle of last week took place on a line between fifty-five and sixty miles long, and the line of battle proper, where the fighting was most severe and continuous, was twenty-five or thirty miles long. The Hun river on the north and west and the Tuitse on the east and south mark out the field in a general way. The Schill river, frequently mentioned in the dispatches, bisects this field on an east and west line, and most of the fighting thus far has been south of it. The battle may possibly be known as the battle of the Schill river.

Gen. Kuropatkin brought into play every pound of military strength that Russia has available in the far East. Since the battle of Liaoyang he has been re-enforced by the First and Sixth corps, and possibly also by the Fourth Don Cossack division. A low estimate of his strength is 200,000 men. It may be 250,000. With all that he has been gradually but surely beaten back, and the chances are greater now than they were at a corresponding stage of the battle of Liaoyang that his army will be partially dismembered. Then his divisions were closely concentrated for mutual support. Now they are much more widely spread out.

On the last day of September correspondents at Mukden made note of great military activity, but their prediction of a movement southward was not credited. Oct. 2 Gen. Kuropatkin issued his famous order for the advance, though it was not till a week later that Europe learned of it. In the meantime the Russians had been engaged in pushing in the Japanese outposts. This preliminary stage of the struggle culminated with the driving of the Japanese outposts out of Bent-siaputze.

The small map gives a roughly accurate idea of the battle field strategy. Three heavy black lines are to be seen on the map marked "Oct. 8 (Japan screen)," "Oct. 10," and "Oct. 14."



EDDYINGS OF THE BATTLE OF YENTAI

These lines indicate the respective positions of the hostile armies at different stages of the battle. The jagged triangle including Yentai, Liaoyang and Sykwantun marks the heart of Oyama's position, the three points being heavily fortified and garrisoned. North of his triangle Oyama had advanced a heavy line of outposts at the position indicated by the line of Oct. 8. But he was not north of Yentai in great force.

The Russian advance from Mukden began on Oct. 6. Two days later it came in contact with the Japanese outposts. In two days' fighting the Japanese scouts were forced back toward their main positions. At the same time re-enforcements were sent forward from the triangle. The retreating outposts and re-enforcements met at the line marked "Oct. 10." On the following day the heavy fighting began.

We can most easily get an idea of the fighting by considering the Kuroki, Nodzu and Oku armies separately. Kuroki has the right, occupying the region at the bend of the Taitse, where that river turns from a southerly to a westerly course. Nodzu is in the center, holding the region from the Yentai station on the railroad. Oku is west of the railroad, holding both sides of the Hun river.

Monday Kuropatkin in full force crossed the Hun river where it flows easterly just south of Mukden. His advance guards on the same day crossed the Schill and attacked Yentai, but were driven back in the evening. Tuesday a larger force crossed the Schill, and the fighting that day was very severe to the north of Yentai. Gen. Danieloff receiving his wounds in that engagement. Gen. Nodzu took the offensive that same day and began to force the Russians back. The struggle was extremely fierce here every day, and probably the great part of the losses are in this region.

Farther to the east Gen. Kuroki met the main force of the attack at his chosen positions near Bentshu. The Russians attempted to outflank him, however, or at least made a feint of that nature, by sending several thou-



SCENE IN A RUSSIAN HOSPITAL CAMP.

sand men across the Taitse farther north to work around to the Japanese rear. Gen. Kuroki seemed to expect to bag this expedition bodily, but if he did it no report has yet arrived. The country here is broken with small hills, and there seems to have been a large number of separate engagements on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Wednesday Kuroki received re-enforcements, and Thursday he sent a strong force under Prince Kanin to cut off the Russians north of Bentshu. This force formed a wedge between the Russian left and center, but the left seems to have escaped from it, and the center was too hard pressed itself to strike a counter blow.

West of the railroad the fighting was more distinctly favorable to the Japanese. Here it was that thirty-five Russian guns were captured. West of the Hun Gen. Oku seems to have cleared the country of Russians to a point within ten or twelve miles of Mukden.

In the number of men engaged, in the casualties of both sides, and in the decisiveness of the Japanese victory the battle at Yentai surpasses that at Liaoyang. But it does not anywhere equal the first conflict in interest. Liaoyang was the first square stand up fight on a big scale with equal numbers and modern weapons between the yellow men and the white. When the



GENERAL GRIPENBERG.

Japs won that fight the great lesson was taught—that education, study, training and patriotism will achieve just as great results for a yellow man as for a white man.

OVER 60,000 FALL IN BATTLE.

Appalling Slaughter Leads to Demands for the War's End.

Field Marshal Oyama, in a report to the Mikado, estimates the number of Russians killed in the battle south of Mukden at 10,000. Other reports from the Japanese headquarters in the field estimate the total number of killed and wounded on both sides at 60,000, but this is considered too low.

The railway yards at Mukden are congested with the trains bearing the wounded from the battle field to the

quarters. He was obliged to flee suddenly. The battle fleet was inspected by the Emperor at Reval, and will sail in a few days for the Pacific.

Japs are reported to have crossed the Hun river ready to attack the Russians in the rear, when they are driven across it.

The Russians are supposed to have lost from 20,000 to 30,000 in the six days' fighting. There were 4,500 dead in front of one Japanese army.

Russians are offering fabulous prices

hospitals at Harbin, and it would not be surprising if Kuropatkin had lost nearly one-fifth of his army in killed and wounded. Complete figures are lacking on the Japanese losses, but they will be large, although smaller than those of Russia.

The extent of the slaughter has shocked both Japan and Russia. In Tokio the appalling tragedy is considered to be a strong appeal for peace. The Japanese, usually quick to celebrate victory for their arms, are receiving the news in a subdued spirit, although it contains the report of a sweeping success for Oyama's forces. A member of the diplomatic corps makes a strong argument in favor of an adjustment of the conflict.

In Russia the defeat of Kuropatkin's armies is making the war more unpopular than ever, and fears are expressed openly that Japan's success will cause China to abandon her neutrality and come out openly in favor of the Japanese.

RUSSIANS LOST 25,000.

Almost Routed by Japanese in First Battle with Conditions Equal.

The seven days' battle north of Yentai was the heaviest blow yet struck the Russians by the Japanese, so far as loss of life is concerned. The left Japanese army during the week buried 4,100 Russian dead left in front of its lines. A village in front of the left wing contains many Russian dead, but the shell fire of the retreating Russians prevents the Japanese from reaching them. Conservative estimates place the Russian casualties at not less than 25,000. Probably many more dead are on the field in places not yet searched. The Japanese report their total casualties at a little over 3,000 killed and wounded. The principal Russian casualties occurred in determined counter attacks on each village captured by the Japanese. The Russian attacking parties were in many cases entirely annihilated.

For the first time the Russians met the Japanese on an equal footing, not having strong defense positions to depend upon, and for the first time they attacked the Japanese in their own trenches. The Russians everywhere fought bravely, but they were unable to drive the Japanese out or to hold their own positions against fierce charges.

Almost in every case the Russians retired from their positions at the first charge, then made repeated attempts to recapture them. The Japanese left army, with a front of nearly ten miles, moved forward about five miles, fighting over every inch of ground. The final retreat of the Russians was almost a rout. The Japanese extreme left advanced, driving the remnant of Russians ahead. The Russians covered their retreat well with artillery and carried away much baggage and many wounded. The Japanese soldiers were practically the same that fought before Liaoyang. Chinese report that heavy works are ready for the Russians along the Hun river. The Japanese are undecided where the next stand will be made. Details of the operation of the right and center armies are not obtainable.

Baron Hayashi sees no probability of anything being done towards peace in the event of a victory for the Japanese, but thinks when Port Arthur falls there may be some hope.

to get supplies into Port Arthur. Gen. Stuessel admits that serious damage is being done and things are warm there.

A mail pouch for the cruiser Cincinnati was seized by Russians from Calchas, and opened and afterwards returned.

The government will make a strong protest.

Over in Japan they call the war dispatches from Chefoo—cheoleries. Those that come from Shanghai they call Shanghai "bundlers," meaning that the news is created on the bund, or river front, of Shanghai.

BLAME IS FIXED.

Commission on Slocum Horror Makes Its Report.

The national Slocum committee has spared nobody. It has struck at the head of the steamboat inspection service. Peremptory orders have been issued to discharge from the service of the United States these officials:

Robert S. Rodie, supervising inspector of the Second District, with headquarters in Albany.

Gen. James A. Dumont and Thomas H. Barrett, local inspectors in charge of the port of New York.

They are held directly responsible for deadly laxity and neglect.

It is ordered that their successors in office at once conduct a thorough examination of the entire inspection force of the port of New York, with the object of weeding out all the men whom such examination shall show to be unfitted to perform the very arduous and responsible duties of their positions.

Changes in the regulations of an extensive nature must be made (for it is so ordered), designed to prevent a repetition of the General Slocum disaster in the port of New York, when 355 died and 175 were hurt out of 1,258. Construction of flimsy steamboats of the Slocum kind will be guarded against. The owners of the Slocum and their executive agents are declared to share largely in the moral responsibility for the wholesale destruction of life. Captain Van Schaack and the pilot are also condemned. The commission declares: "The commission, therefore, believes that the master had knowledge of the fire before the steamer passed the eastern end of Ward's Island. The commission, therefore, believes that the master knew of the fire in time to have beached the vessel either in Little Hell Gate, to the westward of the Sunken Meadows, or in the Bronx Kills, to the eastward of the Sunken Meadows."

A fearful rebuke is given to the officers and crew, save Assistant Engineer Brandow and Chief Engineer Conklin, who are commended as heroes. Pilot Van Wart showed bad judgment and lack of skill in beaching the vessel, giving little opportunity of wading ashore to those who could not swim. The fire-fighting apparatus is sharply criticised, and as to the rotten life preservers the condemnation is supreme. Laws to confer greater power on the inspection service to enforce its commands are strongly urged.

All the regulations must be enforced by order of President Roosevelt, who has written a letter to Secretary Victor H. Metcalf of the Department of Commerce and Labor, directing him to carry into effect the regulations of the commission.

'CAMPAIGN WARMING UP.

Its Last Days May See Some of the Old Time Enthusiasm.

The remaining days of the campaign of 1904 will occupy the public mind pretty much to the neglect of everything else. The voters and those who read the newspapers, the Utica Globe says believe two weeks is plenty as it has been impossible to arouse enthusiasm at an earlier stage and a herculean effort has been put forth to start it ever now.

This campaign differs from others in the absence of accessories—the uniformed marching clubs, the big meetings, and the things which contributed to movement and color. When the spectacular feature is omitted, the distinguishing mark of the presidential canvasses since the 60's, the life is gone. When it is left to the press and the spellbinders to importune support for the candidates the glory of electioneering has departed.

In the old days the cost of carrying on a campaign was small compared to now. In 1860 the Wide Awakes and the Little Giants wore an oil cloth cap and cape costing 40 cents and this placed it within the reach of everyone. Now the uniform cost all the way from \$10 to \$25 and only the few can afford them. A battalion of 200 dressed this way in one month expended from \$4,000 to \$7,000. The old fashioned torch has been superseded by an expensive lantern, and musicians who received \$150 per night now ask \$4 and \$5. The increased cost has had a good deal to do to make this campaign the listless one it has been up to the eve almost of election.

While the omission of the spectacular has disappointed the boys and girls it has served a good purpose in that the heated arguments, the bitterness aroused among the parties to them, has not manifested itself in anything like the proportions of yesteryear. The discussion of platforms and candidates has been carried with respectful deference in novice calculated to anger those who seek enlightenment. This is as it should be and is a distinct gain over the old way of abuse and vilification which marred so many campaigns heretofore.

The Worst Ever.

The bologna sausage makers employed in 165 worst shops in Chicago agreed the other evening to strike for recognition of their union. Eleven hundred men, expert in separating sausages from their bark, joined in the movement. The meeting decided on linked action against the manufacturers, whose trade agreement with the union has expired. The employers decided to run open shops. The union wants the shops closed tight as the bolognas. The worst is yet to come.

Noted Horse Sold for \$70,000.

One of the largest sums ever paid for a horse in this country was that given by Harry Payne Whitney at the sale of the stable of his late father, William C. Whitney, in Madison Square Garden, New York, Monday night. The price was \$70,000, and the horse was the noted stallion Hamburg. James R. Keene, the famous horseman and Wall street operator, was Whitney's only competitor in the bidding, he offering \$60,000.

The Vote in November.

It is estimated that 15,000,000 votes will be cast for President in November. The vote in 1896 was 13,922,378, and in 1900 it was 13,961,596. If the estimate of 15,000,000 votes should prove correct, over a million more votes will be cast this year than were cast four years ago. There has been a large increase in the number of votes, and there will probably be no larger number of stay-at-home voters this year than there was in 1900.

A well-to-do man is often hard to do.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

The Trusts and Labor.

When the late Senator Hanna took up the fad of the Civic Association and tried to arbitrate all disagreements between capital and labor, he made some of the principal labor leaders believe that the concentration of business in the hands of the trusts was for the benefit of organized labor. There was to be the trust for the masters, with the protective tariff to enrich them, and a combination of labor to force up the wages of the workman to keep pace with the increased cost of living. As long as the "business boom" continued the Hanna plan worked to perfection, and both the trusts and the labor leaders thought they had at last reached a Utopian existence. All that was necessary was to "stand pat" and "let well enough alone." But the consumers, who have to pay trust prices, find the effort beyond the reach of their pocketbooks and have been compelled to resort to economy. The Steel Trust and other large trusts and the railroad combines discovered their earnings decreased and many mills and workshops have been shut down. Wages have been cut and strikes have become epidemic and the inflated prosperity bladder is punctured. The railroads had advanced their rates, but soon depressed wages. The Coal Trust advanced prices, but the miners received no increase. The Beef Trust "boomed" beef, but cut wages and lowered the price of cattle and hogs. Other trusts acted on the same hypothesis, that they could continue to plunder the consumers and reduce their expenses and pay big dividends upon watered stock.

The trusts did not kill the goose that laid the golden egg, but they have so maltreated her that the eggs dwindled in size and value. The numerous strikes that have resulted from the wage cutting has brought about the combination of manufacturers for the "open shop." The manufacturers' trust must be preserved at all hazards, but the labor combine must be disrupted.

Everyone with a vestige of common sense is demanding some kind of tariff revision, to stop the trusts from plundering the consumers and especially to hinder the trusts from selling cheaper to foreigners than to the American people. A strong minority of Republicans clamored for reciprocity and tariff reform, but the leaders said, "Stand pat."

President Roosevelt was for some time in doubt about tariff reform; he vacillated between "revision" and a "commission." The Protective Tariff League threatened to defeat his nomination and the trusts declared they would put up no money for the campaign, so what could the poor man do but succumb to those mighty auxiliaries of the Republican party and "stand pat."

So there is to be no relief from protection, no escape from the plundering trusts, no reciprocity, if President Roosevelt and a Republican Congress is continued in power. Parker and Davis! Retrenchment and Reform is the only hope for the people.

No Promise of Reform.

Since the Republicans have been confronted with the unquestioned figures that the administration of President Roosevelt has cost \$211,000,000 more than McKinley's and \$883,000,000 more than Cleveland's they have constantly been trying to explain away this extravagance. But the glowing fact remains that before these unreasonable expenditures were shown up, not an effort was made for economy. No promise of reform, or retrenchment, or economy was made in the Republican platform, nor in President Roosevelt's speech of acceptance did such words occur. But public opinion has become so aroused that in his letter of acceptance the President tries to correct this omission by not only mentioning economy but defines it. He boldly claims that "the expenditures have been managed in a spirit of economy," although he does not attempt to explain why the expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1904, were greater than the annual average during the four years of McKinley, including the cost of the Spanish war.

The voters who pay most of this vast increase should remember that the surplus is being wiped out with a rapidity that will compel new taxes if the present spendthrift administration is continued in power. The deficit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, was \$41,079,601, and already for this year, up to Sept. 28, the deficit is \$18,792,306, which, if continued for the balance of the year, in the same proportion, will make a deficiency of over \$70,000,000.

This mismanagement of the financial affairs of the government cannot continue; there must be a change. Either the wasteful appropriations must be decreased or more taxes must be imposed. The only way with governments, as with individuals, is to make both ends meet. To borrow, by issuing bonds, is only a temporary makeshift, for interest must be added to other expenditures, and the principal must be eventually paid. This is the inevitable condition that frauds, grafting and extravagance have brought us to and that the voters must consider when casting their ballots. If they conclude that their official servants have mismanaged their affairs, they

will refuse to give them another lease of power.

Farm Produce and Protection.

The farmer who has been beguiled into believing that the protective tariff helps him obtain an enhanced price for his produce, should remember that the farmer is an exporter and not a manufacturer threatened with imports. The farmer must have markets abroad, for he raises more than the home market can consume. He does not fear any competitor from a foreign country, so what protection can a tariff on farm products give him? No one is going to send wheat, or meat, or corn, or cotton here to compete with him. After he has sold all the American people can consume the surplus must find a market abroad in competition with the surplus of other countries. Nearly always, the price that the surplus brings abroad fixes the price at home.

What the farmer needs is not a protective tariff, but protection from the trusts, elevator combines and corporations. High freight rates and high trust prices for all the farmer buys eat up his profits and these high freight rates and largely increased cost of all he buys is mainly caused by the protective tariff. Steel rails and nearly everything the railroads use are increased in cost one-third by protection, and of course the farmer pays his share of the bills. Farm machinery, tools, barbed wire, building material, clothes and many more articles that might be mentioned are protected by the tariff, so that the manufacturers can charge a great deal beyond a reasonable profit. All this, and more, the farmer pays, and still some otherwise sensible farmers vote for the party which is openly in league with those who plunder them. Remember that the Republican national platform and State and congressional district platforms pledge the candidates to uphold the protective tariff, so no relief can be expected from a Republican Congress or a Republican President.

Good Reasons for a Change.

Republicans who detest Rooseveltism, but do not like to ally themselves with the Democrats, should take courage from the example of DeWitt Clinton Overbaugh, president of the Grand Hotel Company of New York, a lifelong Republican. He was a member of the famous Committee of Seventy who overthrew Tammany, and is president of the North Side Board of Trade.

His reason for his change of heart he declares to be, that he dislikes the methods of Mr. Roosevelt and cannot trust him to settle the vital questions of national importance, such as monopolies, strikes, investigation and punishment of dishonest public officials, squandering uselessly the public money and the rich trust combines which are eating like a cancer into the very life of the nation and the tariff to be adjusted properly.

LEAVE CAMEL FAR BEHIND.

Several Animals Can Go Without Water for Remarkable Long Periods.

Several other creatures besides the camel are able to get along for extended periods without drinking.

Sheep in the Southwestern deserts of America go for forty to sixty days in winter without drink, grazing on the green, succulent vegetation of that season.

Pecaries in the desert of Sonora live in little dry hills, where there is no natural water, for long periods. They cannot possibly find water—in fact, for months at a time the moisture they can obtain comes from roots and the fruits of cacti.

But the most extraordinary case is that of the pocket mouse, one of the common rodents of the desert.

This little creature, by the way, has a genuine fur-lined "pocket" on the outside of his cheek. When it is hungry it takes food from this pocket with its paw, just as a man would pull a ham sandwich from his pocket.

One of these mice has been kept for three years with no other food than the mixed bird seed of commerce. During this period it has not a taste of either water or green food.

Other experimenters have found, in fact, that these mice in captivity refuse such treats, not seeming to know that water is good to drink.

The bird seed put before this mouse contained not more than 10 per cent of moisture, which is less than is necessary for digestion. Stuff so dry as this cannot even be swallowed until it is moistened by saliva. Yet this remarkable mouse gave nothing but his time to the interests of science.

He suffered nothing in health of spirits during his captivity. The "absolutely abstemious age" of which Edward Lear wrote is completely out-classed.

The question is seriously raised whether this mouse is provided with a condensing apparatus by which it is able to absorb moisture from the atmosphere. At night, and in the burrows, the humidity is much higher than in the daytime above ground, but it never reaches the dew point.

These interesting facts of natural history suggest possibilities in the way of cures for the incurable inebriate.

Have the courage to doubt and your eyes will begin to open.

War News in Brief.

Gen. Biederling lost nearly a whole brigade out of his corps.

The Dowager Empress has broken down on account of Red Cross work.

The Japanese have withdrawn troops from Newchwang and sent them to Liaoyang.

The contraband question reached an acute stage at St. Petersburg, but has eased up.

Gen. Kuropatkin had a narrow escape from being killed with his whole staff by a Japanese attack on his head-